

**MINUTES OF THE
JOINT PUBLIC EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2004

ROOM 129, STATE CAPITOL BUILDING

Members Present: Sen. Howard Stephenson, Co-Chair
 Rep. Gordon Snow, Co-Chair
 Sen. James Evans
 Sen. Karen Hale
 Sen. Lyle Hillyard
 Sen. Bill Wright
 Rep. Doug Agard
 Rep. Duane Bourdeaux
 Rep. Judy Ann Buffmire
 Rep. LaVar Christensen
 Rep. David N. Cox
 Rep. Marda Dillree
 Rep. Glenn Donnelson
 Rep. John Dougall
 Rep. James Ferrin
 Rep. Karen Morgan

Members Absent: N/A

Staff Present: R. Michael Kjar, Sr. Fiscal Analyst
 Ben Leishman, Legislative Analyst
 Katrina Yarrington, Secretary

Public Speakers Present: Darrell White, Deputy of Education
 Susan Huff, Utah Education Library Media Association (UELMA)
 Burke Belnap, President, UELMA
 Larry Jepson, UELMA
 Dennis Morgan, UELMA
 Diane Stokho, UELMA
 Cherryl Smith, UELMA
 Kim Hanson, UELMA
 Steve Laing, State Superintendent, USOE

A list of visitors and a copy of handouts are filed with the committee minutes.

Committee Co-Chair Rep. Snow called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m.

1. Introduction and Committee Review - Rep. Snow moved directly to second item on the agenda.

2. FY 2005 Budget Overview and Major Issue Summary - Mike Kjar, Fiscal Analyst, handed out the budget books for FY 2005. He discussed in detail the critical issues for FY 2005. The handout given doesn't encompass all requests or needs, but under economical circumstances they narrowed it to the most pertinent arenas that need to be looked at for FY 2005. The minimum school program total is \$76,221,834. There has been a request to restore dollars taken last year to the Foreign Exchange Program. The amount asked for Charter Schools is for further growth in enrollment. Retirement Rate is going up and overall requires more appropriations to cover need. The Base funding is the same as FY 2004, minus one time money for various programs, which leaves the Base as \$1,605,000,000. Mr. Kjar said that the Board of Education and the Office of Rehabilitation growth must be the number one item that ought to be covered if at all possible for FY 2005. Another important need Mr. Kjar mentioned is Retirement and Health and Dental for Minimum School Programs.

Ben Leishman, Fiscal Analyst, summarized the individual agencies budget needs. All information detailed in handout included in the FY2005 budget books.

3. Governor Walker's Budget Recommendation- Darrell White, Deputy of Education, distributed a handout detailing Governor Walker's budget recommendation for FY 2005. Projections show an explosive growth of students over the next decade. The governor seeks full funding of enrollment growth in both the regular public classrooms and the public charter schools. The governor also recommended a 2.54 % increase for WPU bringing the governor's recommended WPU budget to \$36,009,100.

Mr. White also said that another important issue in the budget overview would be retirement issues.

Sen. Stephenson asked a clarifying question of Mr. White concerning moneys appropriated for Charter School Enrollment Growth. He questioned whether the \$2,256,200 detailed in the Governor's recommended budget went to the Charter schools or to the local public districts. Mr. White said that it is money appropriated for the local districts to cover when a student moves to a charter school. The money for that student stays with the local district instead of following said student to the charter school. The charter school has other money appropriated from the State to use for the student.

There was extensive discussion among committee members detailing Enrollment Growth and Charter School allocations.

4. Presentation on School Libraries - Susan Huff, Utah Education Library Media Association (UELMA), presented information and distributed handouts detailing her presentation to the committee; which are available in minutes packet. Message of presentation was to show how outdated and inadequate the school libraries have become.

The following people assisted with testimonies:

Burke Belnap, President, Utah Education Library Media Association (UELMA)

Larry Jeppesen, Executive Director, UELMA

Dennis Morgan, UELMA

Sharyl Smith, UELMA

Kim Hanson, UELMA

Diane Stoko, UELMA

5. Subcommittee Business - Committee members were asked to bring specific issues to place on calendar for future committee business.

6. Adjourn - MOTION: Sen. Hale moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes reported by Katrina Yarrington, Secretary.